## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An electric power steering apparatus for performing steering assist. The apparatus is provided with an operation amount sensor for 5 sensing an operation amount of an operation member for steering a motor vehicle; a reference assist characteristics setting section for setting reference assist characteristics; and a motor driving target value setting section for setting 10 a motor driving target value in accordance with a corrected assist characteristics obtained by shifting the reference assist characteristics along the axis of coordinates of the operation The apparatus is further provided with 15 a shifting amount setting section for setting, when forward stroke steering is done, the shifting amount to zero, while setting, when return stroke steering is done, the shifting amount to a value at which corrected assist characteristics is 20 obtained in which the absolute value of the motor driving target value corresponding to the operation amount is increased.